

starting his own company. Donald owned 2 converted B-26 Bombers which he flew for the US Forest Service.

On the Morning of July 16, 1976, Donald was on a slurry run when his B-26 struck a high mountain cliff near the fire as it was starting its sweep into the fire to drop a load of retardant. Donald was protecting Federal BLM lands at the time of his death.

Mr. Speaker, four men gave their lives protecting Federal land during the Battlement Creek fire in July of 1976. Donald A. Goodman and his crew will be honored by the citizens of the Battlement Creek area for their courage and bravery. I would ask that Congress honor them and thank them for their work.

Don's family should be proud of what he accomplished in his life and what he did for the people of Battlement Creek.

WELCOMING PRESIDENT CHEN TO AMERICA

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2001

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, today we have the special privilege of welcoming to our country a companion on the pathway of freedom and respect for individual rights. President Chen Shui-bian of Taiwan walks with us on the road to expanded liberty and equality. His commitment, to stand up and speak out for democracy on behalf of the Taiwanese people, entitles him to a warm and open welcome in the cradle of liberty.

We hope that President Chen's historic visit will demonstrate to the world that the fraternal ties of freedom are the most enduring, gratifying, and unbreakable bonds between people and nations. America and Taiwan share a noble expectation. We hope to see all the world's peoples exercising their fundamental right to self-government. We believe that democratic principles offer the best chance for stability and opportunity in every country and on every continent. When a democratic government leads every nation, prosperity and opportunity will be attainable conditions for everyone.

In Taiwan and in America, our people believe that, for every citizen, the ability to vote for one's leaders is a fundamental and universal human right. We believe that legitimate governments are granted the right to exercise power by their people. We believe that this grant of power flows up from the governed not down from the government.

Every fair and just government respects this principle. Governments that do not respect it can be neither.

One year ago, the people of Taiwan proudly completed the first democratic transition of power in their history. That peaceful transfer of power is the essence of democracy. It was all the more inspiring because the Taiwanese people ignored a campaign of intimidation that was designed to coerce voters into rejecting President Chen. That Communist bluster failed to move the free people of Taiwan. Once again, freedom trumped fear.

The passion for freedom is firmly rooted in the soil of Taiwan. Taiwan is an oasis of freedom. Several years ago, during a visit to Tai-

pei, I saw the amazing spirit and vitality shown by the Taiwanese people. The principles of capitalism and freedom were blossoming across Taiwan. We are rightfully honoring that passion for freedom by allowing the President of Taiwan to visit America.

The record in Taiwan should be an example for other nations: Freedom and democracy work.

We hope that President Chen and his delegation feel the same emotions I felt when I was in Taipei as they visit the United States. Texas and Houston are America at her best. Texans appreciate and understand freedom. We know that it requires both sacrifice and responsibility. And we are especially proud to host President Chen's delegation for a visit.

We hope that President Chen's visit will lead to enhanced ties between Taiwan and the United States. We share commerce, culture and a devotion to the principles of freedom and democracy. He is a worthy friend and we offer him a heartfelt welcome to the United States.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 16, 2001

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 2001, after extensive negotiations, the Senate agreed to a ten-year budget plan that provides for the consideration of significant tax relief and sets in place a responsible spending plan. I was glad that the Senate acted in a bipartisan manner passing a budget that offers immediate tax relief for millions of middle-class families by shifting part of the benefits to lower-wage earners. The Senate's action demonstrates that when both sides are prepared to compromise the American people win. It is unfortunate that the House Republican Leadership refuses to follow the example set in the Senate and work with Democratic Members of Congress in constructing a balanced and fair tax package that benefits America's working families.

I support tax relief. I support lowering the tax burden on married couples by eliminating the marriage penalty and I favor the immediate doubling of the Child Tax Credit from \$500 to \$1,000 per child. We should extend tax relief for working families who pay more payroll tax than income tax and make the Child Tax Credit refundable. Unfortunately, today's vote only offers a solution to part of the problem of high taxes. The House Republican Leadership has chosen to resurrect a tax bill that provides nearly half of the benefits to the richest one-percent of Americans. I agree that we need to lower the burden of income taxes on many families, but I fail to understand why, when presented with the opportunity to address other important tax items, the Republican Leadership fails to work with Members of the other party. The Senate has chosen the path of compromise and embraced the spirit of bipartisanship in crafting a budget that makes room for a tax cut and also meets our obligations. I am disappointed that the House Leadership insists on jamming through an irresponsible tax cut that fails to offer relief for millions of married couples or small businessman. We

can do better and it is my desire for Congress to ultimately pass a balanced and comprehensive tax relief package.

Today's vote is not the final word on providing long-term tax relief to American families. Congress will have an opportunity to consider a package of tax cuts that is fair and that includes relief for millions of other Americans. I sincerely hope that the House Republican Leadership will choose to work with their Senate colleagues in a constructive fashion to incorporate additional balanced tax proposals that encourage savings, help married couples, and allow family businesses to plan for the future.

SALUTING FORMER DeKALB COUNTY COMMISSIONER WILLIAM C. BROWN

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2001

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute former DeKalb County Commissioner, Dr. William C. "Bill" Brown, a man whose heart is huge, counsel is wise, and guidance is never misleading. His demeanor commands the respect of all who are in his presence, and his spirit radiates truth, honesty, and an undying love for all people. I want to thank him from the bottom of my heart for his constant support of my efforts to serve the residents of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Georgia. I have never known a moment when I could not look to him for help and knowing this has always been a great source of comfort. I pray that those of us who are to follow in his footsteps, will be wise enough to do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility and consider others before ourselves. I celebrate you now and always in spirit and in love.

AMERICAN PATRIOTS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today, we pause in remembrance to honor all of America's patriots who gave what Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion." This spirit of remembrance was born out of the dark depths of the bloodiest, most divisive conflict in our history—a war where more than 620,000 men and women lost their lives.

On April 25th 1866, a number of women in Columbus, Mississippi went to decorate the graves of their fallen. Near the final resting places of the Confederate soldiers were other graves—graves holding the remains of Union soldiers who had died on the same bloody battlefields.

Those women wondered who would remember the enemy soldiers buried so far from their loved ones. Moved by compassion, kindness and sorrow, they decorated all the graves they found—those of their own and those of their fallen enemies. Their acts captured the imagination of our entire country and became the foundation upon which our current observance